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New Dork Daily Tribune

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, FEB. 14.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

REEGN .- General Gordon left Berber for Khartoun yesterday. = Mr. Bradlaugh has issued an address asking for a re-election. === The instigators of the massacre in Tonquin have been punished. === The trial of Elliot and others for conspiracy to murder Smythe ended in a disagreement of the jury. == The subscriptions to the new French loan are much in excess of the amount

CONGRESS .- In the Senate Mr. Voorhees offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Interior to withhold approval or selections of lands made by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company within certain indemnity limits. = The Senate considgred the McPherson banking bill and Mr. Bayard delivered an address in its support, ==== The House considered the Chalmers-Manning contested election case; there was a long debate, but no

Domestic .- The water measured seventy feet at Cincinnati yesterday. ==== Pittsburg manufactners will oppose the Morrison tariff in Washingtou. = The jury of inquiry into the death of Hughes at the Utica Asylum condemn the attendants, who have been arrested. === Princeton students are excited over the faculty's attempt to regulate athletics. — The Manitoba road makes essions to the Northwestern farmers. === The disabled Western telegraph wires are now in better condition. ____ There was a run on a Schenectady

caused much delay and danger to travel on the rivers and bay; the Bridge was largely used. = The City Civil Service examiners held an examina tion. = Mr. Abbey's abandonment of the Metropolitan Opera House was confirmed. === The opponents of Dr. Newman asserted their right to hold a meeting, = Judge Brown rendered an important decision regarding undervaluations. Bowdoin College Alumni ate their annual dinner. The history of Jennie Almey was disclosed. = The Aqueduct Commissioners held a meeting. — "Billy" McGlory was taken to Blackwell's Island. — Thomas Kinsella was buried. = Additional sums were forwarded for the relief of sufferers by the Ohio floods. = Two burglars were repulsed by a woman with an umbrella. - Gold value of the legal tender silver dollar (41212 grains), 86.07 cents. Stocks were dull and weak till in the last hour, when they became active and closed strong.

THE WEATHER-TRIBUNE local observations in dicate colder, cloudy weather and probably rain. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 50°; lowest, 33°; average, 3658°.

The remarkable unanimity with which the publishers of this city express themselves in favor of the International Copyright bill, now before Congress, ought to assist materially its passage. With both authors and publishers supporting the measure, and its justice admitted by the public, the solution of the long-puzzling problem should be near at hand.

The arguments of Commissioners Taintor and Stephenson before the House Committee on Commerce yesterday show the need of further legislation regulating immigration. There is no reason why pauper immigrants who may reach this country by way of Canada should not be returned as well as those landing at American ports. The entire care of immigrants should be undertaken by the Federal authorities. It is a question for National and not State

. The recent death of an inmate in the Utica Insane Asylum has led to the appointment by the Assembly of a committee to investigate the matter. After the verdict rendered yesterday by the coroner's jury, followed by the arrest of three of the asylum attendants, there would hardly seem to be need of further inquiry. But the Speaker has appointed an excellent committee for the purpose, and its report on the management of the asylum ought to be satisfactory to the public. Dr. Gray, superintendent of the asylum, stands at the head of his profession in this country, and the public will be slow to believe some of the statements loosely made yesterday in the Assembly.

There is a ray of hope for the people of the inundated towns along the Ohio in the prediction of the Weather Bureau that a cold wave is approaching. The river at Cincinnati is now over seventy feet high-four feet higher than last year, when it exceeded all previous records. The water is falling at Portsmouth, and as there is no important tributary between that point and Cincinnati, it is probable that the highest point has been reached. The effect, however, will be felt for a long time. Subscriptions for the relief of the suffering people are being taken ap all over the country, and are happily meeting a larger sum than was ever before transferred in first carefully examined. The Commission appoints a generous response. But the need is one year. The sooner an end is put to the practice pointed by the Crown to report upon it found

great and will continue to increase for many

The British Government are displaying great activity in their preparations for war in the Soudan. Lord Wolseley is telegraphing from London to the military authorities in Egypt that a force must be collected at once for the relief of Tokar and the defence of the Red Sea ports. Mr. Gladstone has stated that at least 4,000 British troops will be immediately employed on the sea coast of the Soudan. A regiment about to embark for England has been ordered to Suakim; the fleet is left to defend Alexandria; and the Cairo garrison is dispatched to General Baker's camp. The Ministry have reluctantly entered upon a campaign in the Soudan. A few weeks ago the abandonment of the country was abruptly proclaimed. Now the impression is to be conveyed to the Soudanese on the Red Sea littoral that the garrison at Tokar will certainly be rescued as soon as the British troops arrive. This transition of policy exposes the Ministry to destructive criticism. The pressure of public opinion in England and the political exigencies of the debate on the vote of censure in the Commons

have effected this change. A vote was not taken in the Assembly yesterday on the Roosevelt bill to give to the next Mayor the sole power of appointing heads of departments, but there ought to be no question of its receiving the constitutional majority when it is reached on its final passage. The chance of the measure becoming law was materially strengthened by the declaration yesterday of Mr. Gibbs, chairman of the Senate Committee on Cities, that he was heartily in favor of it. For some reason various efforts have been made to misrepresent Mr. Gibbs's position on this and other bills, and he thought it worth while to contradict these misstatements. An impression had been created that the bill would meet with its greatest difficulties in the Senate, but under Mr. Gibb's advocacy it will no doubt pass that body. The public meeting to be held to-night in Cooper Institute in support of this measure bids fair to be an imposing demonstration. It will no doubt furnish arguments enough to convince any unbiased person of the need of such a change in the laws as is contemplated by this measure. Fortunately, however, there are no disinterested persons, so far as known, opposing the measure. But the meeting will show that the bill is demanded by the people of this city, and such a demand the Legislature will not ignore.

The need of regulations such as those prescribed by Mayor Edson for admission to the Civil Service of the city is fully demonstrated by the work of the examining boards, some of the details of which are given in to-day's TRIE-UNE. An inspector in the Public Works Department was found unable to answer the simplest questions in arithmetic and other elementary branches of education. A bogus colonel who presumably had some assurance of employment as an engineer in the same department, gave up in disgust when he found that he would have to undergo an examination. There is apparently a disposition on the part of some of the city officials to regard these regulations as a mere sham, and to ignore them. There is every reason to believe that the Mayor is in earnest in this matter, as is shown by the high character of his examiners. If the regulations are faithfully enforced they will accomplish a good deal toward redeeming the city offices from their base prostitution to partisan purposes. The Legislature ought at once to amend the Civil Service act, so as to extend its provisions to all the city departments, and to repeal the clause which permits the Mayor at any time to suspend the Civil Service rules and regulations. Otherwise Mayor Edson's successor, under some anti-election promise forced on him by the politicians, may undo all that the present Mayor has accomplished toward reforming the municipal Civil Service.

STRIKING AT A BAD PRACTICE.

It will be a fortunate thing for the people of this city if by means of the proceedings begun in the Supreme Court on Tuesday an end is put to the pernicious practice of the Board of Estimate in making transfers of alleged unexpended balances of appropriations. The injunction issued by Judge Donahue on the complaint of Mr. John H. Bird to restrain the Controller from paying out in any way the \$6,741 recently transferred to the use of the Commissioners of Accounts, will afford a speedy means of testing the law on this question. To the lay mind there would appear to be no doubt of the soundness of the position Mr. Asten, a member of the Board of Estimate, has taken in regard to these transfers. He has held that the law does not authorize the Board of Estimate to transfer unexpended balances of previous years to the use of the department heads for the current year. Otherwise the purpose of requiring a final estimate with a concurrent vote (transfers are made by a majority vote) is defeated.

A better illustration of the evils of this system of transfers could not be had than is found in the case of the Commissioners of Accounts. It is held by Mr. Asten, as it was held by ex-Controller Green, when a member of the Board of Estimate, that the law does not authorize the Commissioners of Accounts to employ clerks. The appropriation for that purpose was defeated in the Board of Estimate because a concurrent vote in its favor could not be had. But by means of a transfer the appropriation was made without Mr. Asten's vote. Clearly that was not the intention of the statute. Then the money transferred for this purpose was a portion of the appropriation made for cleaning markets while Andrew H. Green was Controller. In this way what one official saves to the city is spent by another set of officials who come into power years afterward. An appropriation made for one purpose is diverted to an entirely different use. To such an extent has this been carried that within a few years \$2,186,938 has been transferred from unexpended appropriations of previous years. Some department heads make a regular practice of increasing their appropriations for particular purposes, which will not bear close scrutiny, by means of these transfers. In this way an appropriation entirely expended under the \$999 order system by Commissioner Thompson was increased in 1881 \$21,650; in 1882, \$27,500; and in 1883, \$34,135. Other appropriations similarly expended in the same department have been as regularly increased by this reckless practice of transferring alleged unexpended balances.

In fact there are no such balances. The money is not in the treasury, the deficiency in the collection of taxes each year amounting to much more than the unexpended balances of the year. Hence the money used from these transfers is raised by the issue of bonds. The practice is contrary to all sound business principles It induces extravagance, and if not wholly illegal ought to be made so. This fund of alleged unexpended balances now amounts to over \$3,000,000, and it ought to be covered into the treasury. It was depleted last year by transfers to the amount of \$542,286, which was

of making transfers from previous years the better.

CANAL IMPROVEMENTS. A bill is pending in the Legislature which provides for lengthening one of the important locks on the Erie Canal. It meets with some opposition. It is characterized as "an entering wedge," the argument being that to consent to enlarge this lock is to inaugurate a policy that may result in the lengthening of all the locks. Those who talk in this way point to the fact that making the canals free cost the State a good deal of money, and claim that the burden from this source ought not to be increased through the adoption by the Legislature of any enlargement or improvement scheme.

The answer is that if it was worth while to make the canals free, it is worth while to take good care of them. It is not taking good care of them to refuse to lengthen locks, if it can be demonstrated that their efficiency will be greatly promoted by so doing. Those who have given most attention to the canals favor the scheme. They believe that if the locks were enlarged so that two boats could be served at the same time, a saving of two days would be effected on the trip between Buffalo and New-York. But nobody now proposes to enlarge all the locks. It is simply proposed to enlarge this one at Utica by way of experiment. If the result is not satisfactory, the opponents of canal improvements will be furnished with a potent argument against doing anything further in this direction. The bill under consideration passed both houses last year, but died in the Governor's hands. In his message he had taken ground against "all "propositions and schemes for the enlargement of the canals or the expenditure of large sums "of money in their alteration," until the effect of the abolition of tolls was fully apparent. But since in his message of this year the Governor expresses the opinion that the exhibit of the canal business for the season "fully justifies" the remission of tolls, it is fair to assume that if the bill passes again he will sign it.

It is frequently said that the law of private business ought to be the law of public business. It is a sound principle and furnishes a cogent reason for taking care of the canals. If they were owned by individuals who desired to make them worthy competitors of the railroads they certainly would not be allowed to remain in the condition in which boatmen now report them. They would be put in complete order in all that is implied in the term of enlargement and improvement. In his last annual report the State Engineer says " it should be remembered "that since the date of the completion of the enlargement in 1862, when the canals are supposed to have been in their best condition, they have been steadily deteriorating, as appropriations by the Legislature have never been enough to keep them in complete repair and barely sufficient to meet those emergencies caused by breaks, floods, etc., so often encountered in canal navigation." This is a consideration too often lost sight of in the current canal discussion. It is nearly a quarter of a century since the canals were put in thorough repair. The spirit that induced the people to vote to make the canals free will demand that nothing shall be left undone that is calculated to promote their usefulness.

THE NEW PENSION BILL.

When Congress passed the Pension Arrears Bill it had no conception of the magnitude of the consequences. The temptations to such legislation are always strong. Bills appropriating money to whole classes raise up definite political support, and when they are based on the claims of men who have fought for their country it is difficult to secure even prudent examination of their provisions, and impossible to make any effective opposition to their enactment. But the results of the Pension Arrears Bill have shown that this class of legislation has brought into existence a formidable body of middlemen called claim agents, and that these claim agents have made so much money out of their dealings with the pensioners that hey are resolved not to permit so lucrative a business to die. That the new bill owes its origin to the claim agents rather than to public opinion may safely be assumed.

There can be no assurance that if this claim were allowed it would be the last. When the claim agents have sucked dry the pensioners of the Mexican, Creek, Seminole, and other minor wars, they will inevitably look around for further spoils, and they will not have far to look. Nearly every State has at some time in its history een troubled by Indian conflicts, or domestic revolts, or squatter tiots, or something of the kind, in which it has been necessary to call out the militia or to muster in volunteers or deputy sheriffs. Having settled with all the survivors of all the other wars, it will be quite natural to come down to these State disturbances, and by a judicious boom the claim agents can doubtless make it appear that the honor of the country demands the prompt adjustment of all such claims. Congress will find it almost as hard to resist an appeal of this sort as it is to oppose River and Harbor bills, for every State would be in turn interested.

It is easy to perceive how from this enterprise the claim agents, emboldened by success, and rendered greedier than ever by their great gains, might proceed to fresh projects even yet more comprehensive and far-reaching. Pensions for the victims of buzz-saws; pensions for the survivors of railroad and steamboat accidents; pensions for the people who "didn't know it was loaded"; pensions for the widows of bookagents killed in the pursuit of their avocations; pensions for the heirs of people who blow out the gas; in short a swarm of reasons for more pensions would suggest themselves. What is to be the end of this, short of the support of one half the American people by the other half. it is not easy to foresee; but it is clear enough that the great army of claim agents has no intention of abandoning a line of business which has proved so remunerative, and which is so easily "worked."

OUTDOOR RELIEF.

The difficult problem of alms-giving is not vet solved. The trouble obviously is to relieve the necessities of the poor according to a system calculated to decrease rather than increase poverty; to foster rather than destroy self-reliance. Poverty has a way of growing by what it feeds on, the more alms the more paupers.

All over the land philanthropists are earnestly endeavoring to solve the problem. Our own city furnishes one of the best of the organizations engaged in the effort. They all agree in opposition to indiscriminate alms-giving, and have done much to discourage that sort of generous selfishness. But when the question is raised. Shall public relief be given to the poor at their own homes or in public institutions? they divide. The report of the standing committee on outdoor relief of the State Board of Charities, which was lately presented to the Legislature, is a valuable contribution to the discussion. The committee after outlining the argument commonly brought forward on the side of outdoor relief lays down the proposition that experience has demonstrated the system to be a failure. To sustain this proposition the practical working of the system in England is that the effect of outdoor relief upon the re cipients was to sap their habits of industry, dis courage their habits of frugality, encourage improvident and wretched marriages, and produce discontent. Passing from England to this country, the committee show that outdoor relief has been abolished in several cities and towns "not "only without causing suffering among special and worthy cases but with the most beneficial "effects on the character and as a natural consequence on the condition of the people who "formerly depended upon it." Until 1879, the report points out, public outdoor relief was given in Kings County of this State to the amount of \$100,000 yearly; it was then cut off in the middle of winter without warning and without any substitute being provided, "and the result was-nothing." The secretary of the Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity writes to the same effect in regard to the abolition of outdoor relief in that city. Previous to 1880 from fifty to eighty thousand dollars was annually spent upon it, but although the population of the city has increased during the years since it was cut off the number of indoor poor has decreased. In concluding its report the committee feel warranted in saying that "it has been proved that outdoor relief is not only "useless as a means of relieving actual exist-"ing suffering but is an active means of increas-"ing present and future want and vice." And it adds that "the only other means of giving pub-"lie relief is within an Institution, and this will "be found to render possible the attainment of "all the objects which should be aimed at by

public relief." The subject is one of great and growing im . portance. It appeals alike to the humanitarian and the taxpayer pure and simple. The advocates of outdoor relief now have the floor. What have they to offer in reply to this report?

THE TROUBLE ABOUT MONEY.

"With such enormous reserves, how can there " be danger ? Surely a monetary system is safe, "when the Treasury holds \$445,000,000 in "cash, and the New-York banks hold \$111,-" 000,000 more." Such is the reasoning of some men who are commonly respected for good sense in business matters. Are they right?

To begin with, the Treasury does not hold \$445,000,000 in cash of any or all kinds. In that sum are included \$66,000,000 of United States notes, or other equivalent forms of currency. These notes in the hands of Government are in no sense currency. They are simply redeemed promises to pay-mere memoranda that Government once did borrow and since has paid certain sums. It can borrow again, by issuing the same promises, it is true. But power to borrow money is not money. Paper promises of Government do not become currency in any sense until they go into the hands of somebody who holds them against the Government, as evidence of its debt to him.

Hence it is also clear that the certificates held by the banks must also be deducted, or else the gold held by the Treasury to which those certificates give title. These, again, are only evidences of a debt-but of a debt not yet paid. The holder of a legaltender certificate can at any moment demand legal-tenders for it, and, without leaving the counter, can then demand gold for his legaltenders. Refusal to pay would be an act of bankruptcy. The \$17,080,000 legal-tender certificates outstanding on Saturday, therefore, gave holders a title to \$17,080,000 gold in the Treasury, precisely as much as the \$82,201,440 gold certificates then outstanding gave title to: the gold which, under the law, the Treasury is bound to hold as a sacred deposit for their redemption. Thus \$100,000,000 of the Government's gold is actually owned by the holders of these certificates. A great part of the gold reported as held by banks consists of these certificates to gold in the Treasury, which, therefore, has left, of gold not thus owned by holders of outstanding certificates, only about \$122,-000,000.

title to property which nobody they take--the silver dollars. But also give a power of paying debts to the Treasury, and are used in paying customs and taxes. In ordinary circumstances they circulate freely. Let any alarm arise and these notes would go into the Treasury instead of gold with astonishing rapidity. Hence these, too, are debts which the Government can, and in any emergency will, be compelled to pay in gold, On Saturday there were \$96,939,271 of the silver certificates out. And the Government owned only \$122,000,000 gold for the redemption of these and the legal-tenders.

Still, where is the danger? Men are glad to get this paper; in fact, it goes into circulation because they prefer it to coin. But when an emergency comes, what then ? Let us suppose that England's business in Egypt and the danger of a possible Mussulman uprising in India should cause large demands for gold. We can not send gold certificates or legal-tenders; still less silver certificates. The actual gold must go, primarily from the banks, let us say. At present, reserves are enormous and there is no apprehension. But a drain of gold would cause it to be drawn from the Treasury. The amount of gold owned by the Treasury might thus be quickly reduced below \$100,000,000. Now it does not matter how unreasoning an apprehension is, if it exists. Should an apprehension spring up that Government might not be able or disposed to pay gold on demand much longer, is it not certain that legal-tenders and certificates would

then be sent in for payment in large amount? The New-York banks, for instance, own \$33,200,000 legal-tenders. If they begin to apprehend that gold may not always be forthcoming, how quickly they will demand it for their notes! Because they have to settle with Europe, and Europe will not take paper promises, but must have gold. It would not be cowardice, it would not even be an unpatriotic act; the supreme duty of the banks is to be able at an instant's notice to pay gold to their creditors who have to settle with foreigners. Now the plain fact is that the Government has outstanding \$196,220,711 in certificates and \$300,000,-000 of legal-tenders, payable on demand, and the only money it has that it can pay with, in any emergency, is about \$222,000,000 gold.

A series of lectures on "First Aid to the Injured, is being given for the benefit of newly appointed policemen. A series of lectures on "Conservatism in the Use of the Club" would perhaps to a considerable extent obviate the necessity for "aid to the

Even in this Congress Mr. Reagan finds small sug port for his "inter-State commerce" form of Com. munism. Notwithstanding his selection as Chairman of the committee by the Speaker of the House, it appears that only one other member favored the Reagan bill, and a majority voted in favor of a mission bill. It is now in order for Mr. Reagan to pronounce Mr. Carlisle a tool of monopolies, Meanwhile, the country would manage to endure the catastrophe even if Congress should pass no Commission or other bill, but should just leave the railroads to compete with each other for the favor of the shipping and travelling public. Self-interest is a more potent regulator than any that Mr. Reagan can devise.

The World pointed to the Church defalcation in

lican party to private life. But it is confronted with these facts-Mr. Church was a Democrat; he was appointed Chamberlain of Troy by a Demo cratic Mayor, to supersede Mr. Hall, a Republican Mr. Hall is now called by a Democratic Mayor to fill the vacancy occasioned by Mr. Church's flight. In these circumstances The World will doubtless

find it convenient not to return to the subject. The belief that dull and gloomy weather like the present tends to encourage suicide does not appear to be borne out by statistics. These show that more suicides occur in summer than in winter. The theory is that gloomy weather seems to harmonize with the thoughts of those who are in trouble, whereas when the sun is shining and the flowers are blooming and the birds singing, the wretched feel as though all nature floated their sorrows, and they are tempted to rush from a world which offers them no sympathy. Of course there are many suicides with which the weather has nothing to do, but it is a fact that more people kill themselves in May than in December.

Mr. Gladstone says General Gordon's plan in the Soudan is "to restore the former rulers to their ancestral power usurped by Egypt." That might be a practicable course under other circumstances, but as the Mahdi has to be reckoned with in any arrangement now made, it seems propable that the restoration of the former rulers of the Soudan will depend more upon him than upon the wishes of the aforesaid rulers or the desires of General Gordon. In fact, it rather looks as though the latter was to request the Mahdi to give up his conquests, and that this renunciation was seriously expected to follow such an invitation.

The Rochester Union falls foul of the bill providing for the appointment of a prison labor commission It characterizes it as a piece of "trickery," expresses the hope that no Democrat will accept a place on the commission, asserts that the Republican majority as a body is opposed to the abolition of the prison contract labor system, and declares that "the Democratic party stood pledged and ready, if intrusted with the legislative power, to give effect to the decision of the people." Our contemporary must not expect to make much headway with its opposition. It would like to see this Legislature rush in without any examination of the prison problem in its important bearings and tear down the present contract system. It is the part of wise men to look before they leap; to take care that in . jumping out of the frying-pan they do not jump into the fire. The bill is a well-considered effort to determine what it is best to do before deciding to do anything, and hence is eminently sensible. There is no proof that the Republican majority of this Legislature is opposed to the abolition of the present system, but there is proof that the Democratic majority of the last Legislature, while pretending to be in favor of its abolition, when it came to the pinch flunked miserably, resorting to the palpable evasion of referring the subject to a popular vote,

It appears that forged divorces have become quite the fashion, for yesterday a San Francisco lawyer was arrested on a charge similar to that preferred against Law, in this State, Considering the facilities offered for divorce in most of the States it might have been thought that any arrangements for further expediting that business were superfluous, but some people never can be eatisfied, and even if bank-notes could be had for the asking they would engage in counterfeiting. The extent of the divorce forgeries in Brooklyn appears to be much greater than was at first supposed.

The report of the Naval Board appointed to de rise a scheme of operations for the Greely Relief Expedition has been anticipated by the official recommendations of the Secretaries of War and the Navy submitted to Congress when the appropriation was asked for. The general plan is an excellent one and the details now furnished confirm the favorable judgment which we have already expressed. The two scalers are to operate together, one being a base of retreat from the other in any unforeseen emergency; and while arrangements are made for an orderly and systematic advance, no precautions are to be neglected. The report commends that in addition to the two sealers a naval tender, presumably the Yantic, shall be sent to Littleton Island, and also that a smaller vessel shall be dispatched to Melville Bay to search the Greenland coast in advance of the other ships. It will be more prudent to have the Yantic remain where she is; and a steam launch, sent out like the Little Juniata in the search for the Polaris, Then as to the silver certificates, they give | will accomplish all that may be regulate early in

the acason. It is well that McGlory is to go to the Penitentiary, for it will give Mr. Gibbs time to cool down, and to discover that he made a mistake in imagining that the germs of a temperance apostle were latent in the Hester-st. den manager. If McGlory wants to reform, moreover, he will have plenty of time to do so after he has served out his term, and then his reformation will not be open to the charge of hypocrisy.

The insidious advances of enervating luxury are thrillingly illustrated by a recently published patent medicine advertisement, in which it is stated, vidently as an inducement to the youths of America to go and do likewise, that another patent medicine man, who began life upon nothing, attained such a pitch of prosperity that he "wore velvet robes with diamond buttons, and stood be-fore kings." Time was when the hope of being President of the United States was held out as the highest possible reward of human ambition, but now we seem to have fallen on evil days, when young America is supposed to be amenable to such gaudy and meretricious temptations as consist in velvet robes with diamonds buttons, to be displayed in the presence of effete royalty.

PERSONAL.

Mr. W. D. Howells sees few visitors nowadays, being deeply absorbed in literary work in which he does not wish to be disturbed. Ex-Governors Rice and Talbot, of Massachusetts.

will spend the remainder of the winter and the early spring in Florida. sons privileged to make jokes in the Queen's presence, and he often caused her to indulge in a hearty laugh. The late Lord Hertford was one of the few per

The Rev. Dr. William R. Williams, of the Trinity Baptist Church, of this city, is nearly 80 years of age, and has been pastor of that church 52 years. He fills the pulpit nearly every Sunday.

Governor Robinson could get three "square meals" a day gratis, if he liked, for he is said to receive on an average three invitations a day to public or private dinners.

Mrs. Joseph Cook has entered the lecture-field, taking for her theme "The Temples and Tombs of Hindostan," and illustrating her remarks with ster-In memory of Wendell Phillips the Irish socie

ties of Boston will omit their usual St. Patrick's Day parade, and in the evening of that day will attend a lecture, the proceeds of which will be contributed to the fund for a statue of the great "Chinese" Gordon, as is well known, is a man of profound religious convictions, and studies the Bi-

ble with an enthusiasm that is usually supposed to belong to the theologian more than to the soldier. A curious proof of this, according to The dier. A curious proof of this, according to The Whitehall Review, was afforded during one of his visits to England, when he paid several visits to Kow, and made eager inquiries of all the officials at the gardens, from Sir Joseph Hooker downwards, as to whether they could give him any information of any kind which would enable him satisfactorily to determine the exact botanical nature and characteristics of the Tree of Life.

Some years ago Stuart Robson was playing in Boston in a piece the heroine of which was called Gabrielle. It so happened that almost every one in the cast had in some scene, to call her by name, and no two pronounced the name alike. One said "Gaybril"; another "Gaybrell"; and then came "Gaybreel," "Gaybryelly," etc., until Kobson came in on the closing scene. To cap the climax he purposely called her "Gable," "Oh, Gable," he squeaked, "by right I should call you Gable Hawthorne," "Why?" asked she, "Because to-night this is the House of the Seven Gables." and no two pronounced the name alike. One said

Troy to enforce the necessity of retiring the Repub- | Washington, Feb. 13.-General Sheridan will

leave Washington to-night for New-York, to visit. General Grant. He will return on Saturday.

TALKS ABOUT TOWN. MISS ANDERSON'S SUCCESS IN LONDON. Hamilton Griffin, Mary Anderson's stepfather.—I am paying a flying visit of a personal nature. I came over on the Gallia and go back with her on her return trip, so you can imagine how busy I have been. I have brought nothing but good news with me. Every one has been more than kind to us in London, and both Miss Andow

son and myself are charmed with the place and the people. Could anything have been more ridiculous and absure than the reports about Miss Anderson and the Duke of Portland! Why she never even saw him and he never saw her, and I doubt whether he had ever heard of her beyond the newspaper accounts, when the story of their engagement was cabled over here. One thing has struck me, and I must own that Miss Anderson is much pleased at it. She is praised by the London critics for her artistic ability. Some of them deny her genius, but grant her su preme knowledge of her art. I in America the story used to be reversed. She was often told that she had genius, but that her artistic methods were faulty. I must also say that in my opinion she is improving every day. The society of acknowledged leaders in artistic circles may have much to do with it, but it is clearly appared that such is the case

LUXURIES IN WESTERN CITIES.

Secretary Teller .- Denver is remarkable in the fact that whatever luxury money can buy in New-York City, it may also be had in Denver. The range of choice in luxuries is just as wide, although stocks of goods are, of course, not as large as in the metropolis. Kansas City is another West-ern place, whose business men are presenting customers with wonderful assortments. Money is plenty in these places, rapidly made and freely spent, which account

MR. BOUCICAULT'S TRAVELLING THEATRE. Dion Boucicault. - Yes, I am very well, and though I am trifle over sixty-two, I find I can support the fatigues of travelling without difficulty. But the fatigues are hardly worth talking about when one becomes acclimatized, as it were. Our day's journey is very often only an hour or two long. However, to make mattered more comfortable, I am having two built for me. One is arranged for the most convenient reception of scenery, properties and baggage. In playing at one-night towns we find it absolutely necessary to take the greater part of the setting required with us, as the local manager can supply next to nothing. The other car is a hotel car and will commodate the whole of the company. I shall have a little room of my own, small, but large enough for me; quite as large lu fact as the little garret in which I first wrote plays. This present combination system has exer-cised an enormous influence on the country at large. Small towns which twenty years ago saw nothing but an occasional circus or lecturer now are able to have good performance every night in the week if they wish, and they generally do wish. I don't know if you are aware that I am the founder of this combination system, which has altered the whole aspect of theatrical affairs not only in America but in England and France also. I had been waiting until I had something good with which to make the experiment, and in 1860 I took "The College Bawn" through the English provinces. Till that time a star had always travelled alone, finding his support in the provincial stock companies. I took a company of five, most of them Americans, by the way, old John Drew among the number. Next year others followed our example, and very soon I was told by country managers that they had disbanded their stock companies and were going to rely on the combinations in future. Whatever may be said against the system it has at least educated those who live in small towns to a knowledge and appre-ciation of the theatre which they would otherwise not

BUILDING UP THE WEST SIDE. William H. Barker, president West Side Improvement Association.—If the elevated roads had been in operation ten years earlier, the territory west of the Central Park would be all built up to-day. I am not sure but it is as well, though, for we are now building what is to be the choice part of New-York during the next fifty years. The Clark estate has only initiated the work with the Dakota and its block of residences. They will be ready for occupation this summer. Joshua Jones owns some six acres adjoining the Clark estate, and I have been informed the estate will build another row of buildings on is property if he will do the same on his. What we want now is that the elevated road shall lay tracks between those now in use, solely for through trains, so that we can go from the Battery to Harlem in fifteen minutes.

GENERAL NOTES.

"Walking yesterday along the Rue de Seves," writes a lady from Paris to The London Truth, " I saw the following delightful announcement painted on the side of a porte-cochere: 'Madame Zenobie C-, third story, lets out teeth for evening parties and balls.'"

The Newsdealers' Herald is the bright and lively organ of the Newsdealers' Association. It shows an experienced hand, and is a vigorous and effective pubiteation. Newsdealers will undoubtedly find it to their advantage to give it a large circulation.

The Philadelphia Item insists that the pre posal to increase the power of the Mayor over appoint-ments is a mistake in municipal reform, and that the nly effective reform measure is to extend the elective rinciple so that every officer shall be voted for directly

The Philadelphia Call makes casual mention of a negro who was so black that he could not be seen without a light. In the introduction to the second part of the Biglow Papers Mr. Lowell reproduces a still darker legend. It is of a fellow-citizen so black that a piece of charcoal made a chalk mark on him.

The Archæological Society of Athens has deermined to explore the bottom of the Bay of Salamis for elies of the vessels which were sunk in the famous naval battle between the Greeks and Perslaus. The former ost about fifty and the latter nearly two hundred galleys, which have since lain ,undisturbed at the bottom of the sea. The water is not very deep, the society pos-sesses sufficient financial strength to employ the beat means of investigation, and the attempt is regarded with great interest.

The superstitious inmates of the Imperial Palace at Berlin were greatly relieved when they ascerained that the recent apparition of the "White Lady." fortelling death, was in fact nothing more awful than a white-aproned kitchen boy who having been kept up late by the preparations for a coming festivity, amused himself with a midnight stroll through the corridors. The youngster would have been dismissed from the royal service except for a friendly intercessor whose wish is a

Ludlam's Beach, on the New-Jersey coast. midway between Atlantic City and Cape May, is at present covered with such a deposit of clams as no one in that region ever saw before. They were loosened from their bed by a great storm several weeks ago and since then every flood tide has heaped them on the store. Unfortunately they are sand clams, edible but not marketable, and as every one in the neighborhood is satiated they are left to perish and exhale a villanous stench. The heavy northeast storms of last week buried millions of them in the sand, and fortunately the sea-guils find them palatable; but the aggregate mass shows searcely any diminution. Mr. Edward K. Brick, whom The searcely any distinction. See Education Philadelphia Record pronounces a respectable authority, tool. a reporter of that paper a few days ago that about a mile above Sea Isle City there is a compact mass of clams five feet in height, from twenty to twenty-five feet in width and a full quarter of a mile long.

NO HOPE OF DEMOCRATIC VICTORY,

Washington Correspondence Philadelphia Press. With the National Legislature divided in With the National Legislature divided in purpose; on the defensive as to every important issue before the people; presenting no popular principle which is not falsified by its own practices; turning its back upon the only men who are competent to lead it, and beginning the campaign by deliberately snapping its fingers in the face of the business interests of the country—now can the Democracy really expect victory in the next Presidential election 1 As a matter of fact I firmly believe that the thoughtful men in the party really enterialn no) expectation that is not based upon the forlorn hope of a happy accident. Whether this happy accident shall be the arrival of a Democratic Moses without preliminary announcement, the enthusiastic response of the people to the auti-corporation crusades which the House Committees were organized to set on foot, the opening of a new barriel by Mr. Payne or Mr. Flower, the ressurrection of Sainnel J. Tilden, the reassertion of boss methods, or the renomination of Chester A. Arthur, is an open question that it is too early to close.

SHOULD GIVE ITS WHOLE MIND TO BRITISH FREE TRADE.

FREE TRADE.

The New-York Times seems to be doing its best to dismicerate the Arthur administration, but as yos it meets with little success. A few days age it amounced important changes which were to occur in the President's Cabinet, including the retirement of Secretary Folger and the shifting about of the other members to different departments. Nothing of the kind has happened, however, Yesterday The Times began another attack, insisting that Attorney-General Reewster would soon retire from the Cabinet. The Times has such poor luck at prophecy in this direction that it would seem best for it to turn its special attention to the British interests of tree trade which it seems to conserve with so great care.

ONE THING IN HIS FAVOR. THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE reports a movement to bring out a Democratic candidate for Preside whom it calls "an uncommonly dark horse." His man is Waldo Hutchins. If Mr. Hutchins should be chose this at least can be said in his favor: He has not always been a Democrat.